

House Republican Press Release

April 22, 2005
Press Office: 860-240-8700

Adinolfi Opposes Huge Tax Increase



HARTFORD- State Representative Al Adinolfi (R-Cheshire) opposed a proposed 13 percent increase in the two-year state budget as a member of the budget-writing Appropriations Committee. He noted the excessive raising of taxes by \$1.1 billion, and the shattering of the state constitutional spending cap by \$434 million as his

primary reasons for opposing the measure.

Adinolfi voted against the Democrat-proposed budget that would spend \$31.8-billion, or \$647 million more than Governor M. Jodi Rell's biennial budget.

According to Adinolfi, the Tax Foundation in Washington calculates that Connecticut residents already pay the largest combined federal, state and local taxes per capita in America. The Tax Foundation estimates that Connecticut taxpayers work until May 3 to pay their taxes, the longest of any state, before they can have funds to pay living expenses for themselves and their families.

If these tax increases are passed, noted Adinolfi, the legislative majority Democrats will have increased taxes since 2002 by more than \$2 billion.

"It's almost as if the majority completely lacks any discipline or accountability," said Representative Adinolfi. "Not only do they fail to see the terrible impact this will have on working families and businesses, as well as the overall economy of the state, but they are completely ignoring the constitutional spending cap enacted by referendum in 1992 by a vote of 81% in favor. It's outrageous, it's arrogant, and it shows how measurably power has gone to their heads."

The Appropriations Committee approved the increased spending plan Monday (April 18) along party lines by a 34-16 vote. Governor Rell stated she opposes the proposal and will not sign an emergency declaration that is required for the budget to exceed the spending cap.